New National Highways for North-Eastern Region

3595. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of works in the construction of Golden Quadrilateral;

(b) the plan to connect North-Eastern States with the Golden Quadrilateral;

(c) the names of the States of the country not having direct link with the GQ;

(d) whether Government are planning for new National Highways to connect these States with the GQ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) As on 30.04.2006, 91% of Golden Quadrilateral has been completed.

(b) Presently, there is no plan to connect North-Eastern States of the country to Golden Quadrilateral. However connectivity to North-Eastern Region is envisaged through East West Corridor with stretches identified for improvement under National Highway Development Project Phase III/Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for North East (SARDPNE).

(c) The States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttaranchal are not having direct link with Golden quadrilateral.

(d) and (e) At present there is no plan to declare new National Highways and only the existing National Highways would be improved. The States of Uttaranchal, Goa and Madhya Pradesh are planned to be connected to Golden Quadrilateral under NHDP Phase III. States of Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Punjab are covered under North-South and East-West Corridors. State of Chhattisgarh besides the States of North-Eastern region as indicated in part (b) above are planned for connection to North-South and East-West Corridor, under NHDP Phase III.